

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 22, No. 6

TORONTO 2, CANADA

June 7th, 1930



SHE: "Papa love Mama?"

HE: "Sure Papa love Mama, but Papa love Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Announcement just now!"

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

"BEFORE I TALK ABOUT NEXT SEASON—"



AS FAR as the public is concerned there's no such thing as "this season" or "next season."

Our great showmen-producers in California aren't concerned with the seasonal arrangements for distribution but they are concerned with making each of their pictures a complete and splendid entertainment.



THAT accounts for the fact that while many other companies are concerned only with presenting an ambitious front for next year M-G-M goes merrily on giving you great product right now.

AT THE moment of going to press "Caught Short" is making America forget its troubles. And in gratitude America has proclaimed Marie Dressler-Polly Moran the greatest comedy team of many years. You'll hear more of those two gals. Meanwhile they've played three weeks in Detroit; two marvelous weeks in Los Angeles, breaking the all-time record of the State Theatre. In

Chicago they played two first run houses in the loop—the Chicago and the Roosevelt—in succession, an unprecedented thing. Same story everywhere.

NORMA SHEARER in "The Divorcee" continues its amazing career, coming back to Frisco for a two-week stand after doing so marvelously in its initial first run there.

In Boston it took the house record held for a long time by "The Big Parade." In Oklahoma City it broke all records and Midnight shows were added! In Los Angeles it's breaking all records at Criterion. Every engagement adds new laurels,



MISS SHEARER follows through with another winner "Let Us Be Gay" of which Motion Picture News says: From an audience standpoint it will be rated one of the best talker screen farces to date! It will enhance the popularity of Norma Shearer as a big name bet."

"THE BIG HOUSE" has set the West Coast on fire! M-G-M's thrilling romantic drama opens soon for an extended run at the Criterion, Los Angeles; the Warfield, San Francisco, and elsewhere. Backed by strong national

campaign in the Hearst papers with a 30-day serial paying the way, "The Big House" comes opportunely as a real life-saver of the warmer days.



LON CHANEY Talks in "The Unholy Three." That's something to look forward to just as you enjoyed the excitement of Greta Garbo's first Talkie! Chaney has made a magnificent, dramatic entertainment and will be a positive sensation in Talking pictures.

MOTION PICTURE NEWS describes "The Sea Bat" as a "corking adventure picture" comparing it to "White Shadows in the South Seas" and "The Pagan." As in the case of those two, M-G-M sent a complete company and Talking equipment to a distant locale in Mazatlan, Mexico, to film the story. The result was worth it!



Greta Garbo in "Romance"

"OUR BLUSHING BRIDES" brings Joan Crawford in yet another peppy picture of youth aflame! "Our Dancing Daughters" great! "Our Modern Maidens" great! "Blushing Brides" does it again!

THEN COMES GRETA GARBO!

That's music to a showman's ears. Her second Talkie is "Romance" the famed stage love-drama.

MARION DAVIES sweeps in on a cyclone of national advertising and promotion with a grand comedy, "The Florodora Girl."

Ruth Chatterton heads a distinguished cast in "The Lady of Scandal" based on that most successful Broadway hit, "The High Road."

ALL of the foregoing—and more to be announced—means that between now and the new season M-G-M is crashing through with pictures of power!

AND THEN 1930-31 looms ahead with M-G-M geared for the most ambitious program of its entire history!



Joan Crawford in "Our Blushing Brides"



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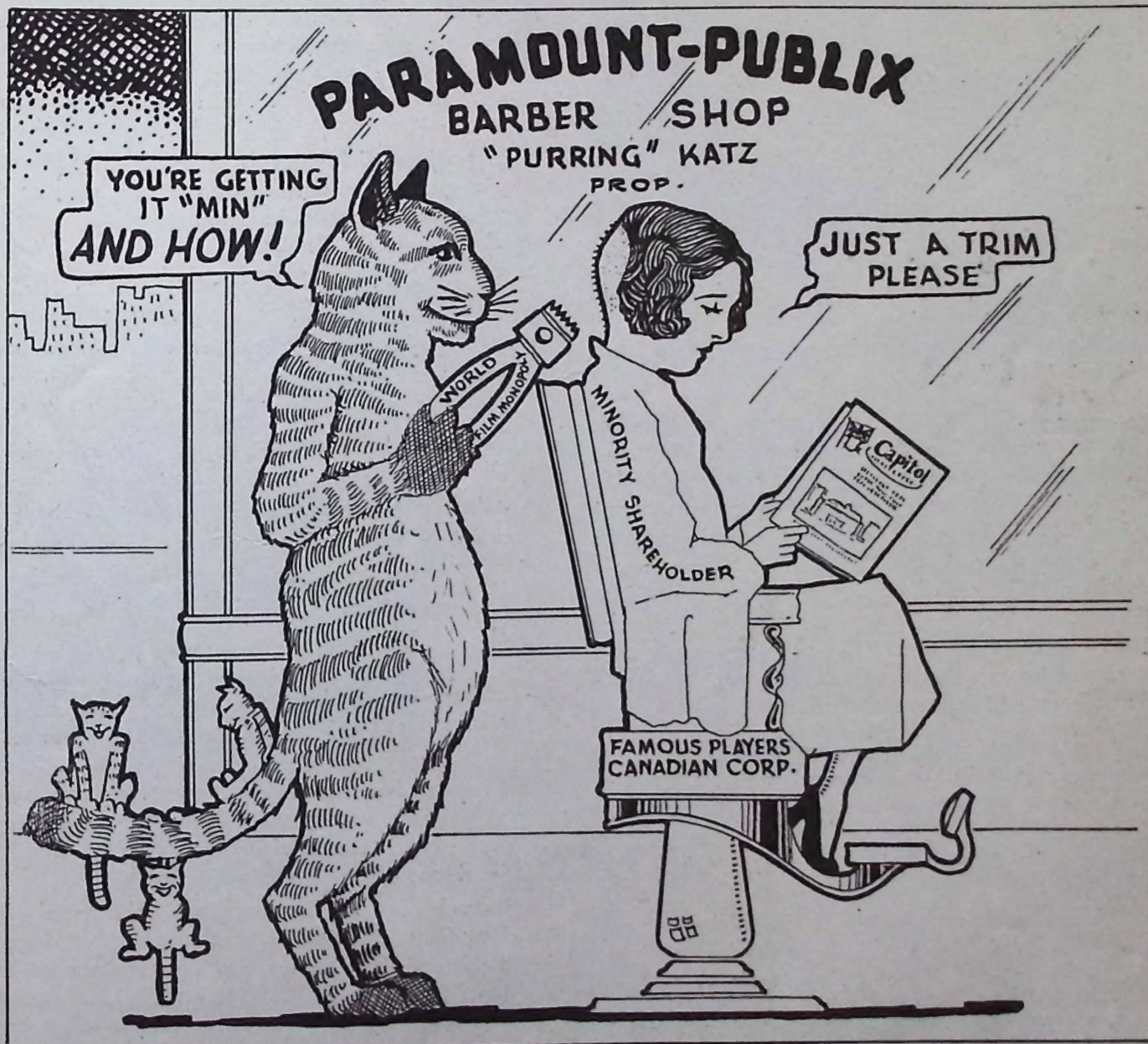
RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 22, No. 6

TORONTO 2, CANADA

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Trimming a Specialty



"Chicago Katz" has started his "Trimming" business in Canada. Now we can expect a visit from Mayor Thompson, another Chicago celebrity, who will no doubt, suggest that Katz "trim out" the word "Canadian" from Famous Players Canadian Corp., because it is British Propaganda.

RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

THOSE of you who remember how Katz, of Balaban & Katz, gathered in the independent exhibitors of Illinois, etc., and then met with certain representatives in caucus, to decide whether these Independents should be linked up with another Independent Enterprise, namely Fox, will also remember that Katz turned down the Independent and turned these exhibitors over to Paramount-Famous Lasky.

The reward for Katz is obvious in Paramount-Publix, the reward for the Independent exhibitors is obvious also!

You remember exhibitors, the "offensive" launched for theatres; and the policy of "give me your theatre or get out," which later developed with the more offensive platform which eliminated the "or."

PARAMOUNT-PUBLIX history is repeating itself now in Canada, the Independent Theatre-owners are being urged to get in the B. & F. subsidiary company on the fifty percent ownership basis, "get in or get out" is the battle cry of monopoly; and although the Canadian executive viewpoint of Famous Players Canadian, thinks the fifty-fifty basis is a banner deal for Paramount-Publix, the latter policy, as expressed by those who have apparently assumed control here, is that the Combine wants "no partners," and "get out" is the password.

I am still appealing to those who have good memories; and these will remember that Katz sent two of his henchmen to the Milwaukee Convention "to kick Ray Lewis in the pants," because of "The Spotlight's" advice to exhibitors.

These henchmen happened to be talking to your editor and gave her this information, not connecting Miss Lewis with Ray Lewis.

WHEN these Chicago "pants-kickers" found out that your editor did not wear pants, they hated to make "a bloomer" of the kicking; and gave her two ten dollar subscriptions to The Spotlight.

The moral of this story is that many a "kicking pants" specialist makes a "bloomer" of his aggressive campaign; and in the glorious finale

has to pay to keep in business, those whom he wished to "put out of business."

DON'T be kicked in the pants, exhibitors; and to prevent a "bear attack," keep your suspenders well up; your belt tightly buckled; and throw a little "bull" on this grab-all market policy.

No producer-distributor is going to help the Katz policy of putting you out of business. As soon as these other distributing companies realize that you are being backed up towards a Combine Wall with your hands up, you will get product at prices which will enable you to maintain your independence!

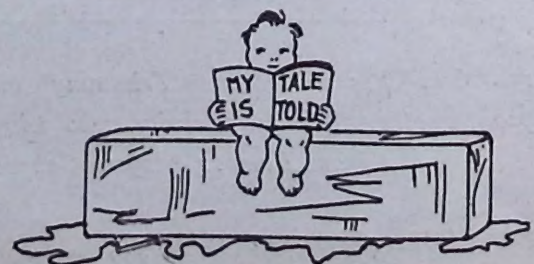
Don't be ordered to "get out." You, a great many of you, were here in business before Famous Players Canadian, or Paramount-Publix. You are Canadians and the policy of the Government of this country is to promote Canadian enterprise, industry, trade, not to exterminate it with foreign monopoly.

There is an investigation by the Canadian Government now proceeding in Canada, under the Combines and Criminal Acts.

THE GOVERNMENT and the sentiment of the people stand behind Canadian Enterprise, behind you as Canadians.

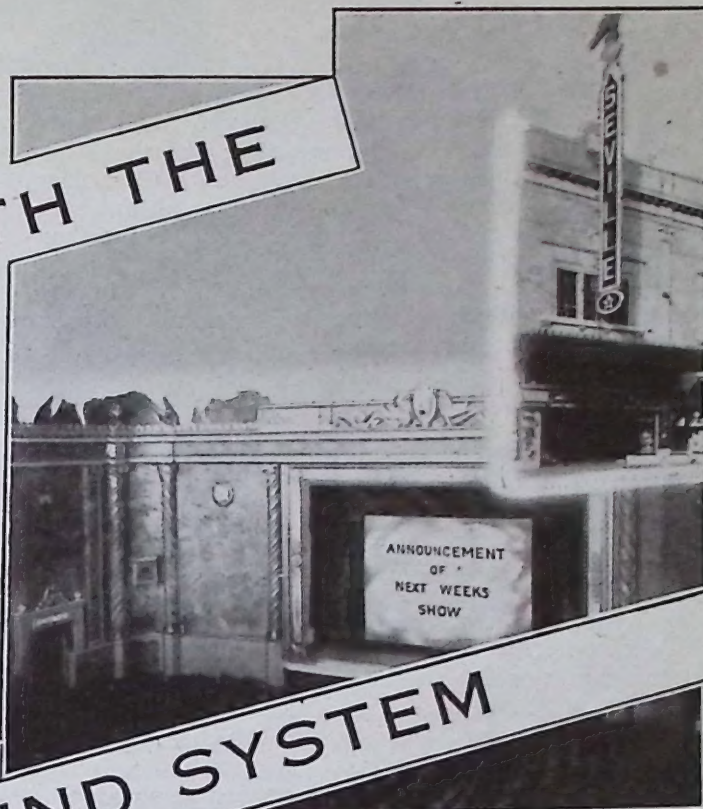
Monopoly in one's own country may not be such "a thorn in the flesh" of a political machinery as the people would like it to be, but when it comes to a Foreign Monopoly, well that's different.

Remember what a bloomer Sam Katz made of his "Kicking Pants" mission. History has a habit of repeating itself; and there "never was a trust that one could not bust," says Mr. Public Opinion.





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N.E. SOUND SYSTEM



Can you talk to your Audience from your desk.

THE "Northern Electric" is the only Sound System to which an announcing system can be added. This announcing system enables you to talk to your audience direct from your office or any other part of the house, as desired.

Only theatres now equipped with Northern Electric Sound Systems can use this valuable means of personal contact between themselves and their audiences.

Write for complete details. Research Products Sales Department, 637 Craig Street West, Montreal.



WESTERN ELECTRIC IN U. S. A.

Observations



By The Editor

NORMA SHEARER, in "The Divorcee," had a preview showing in Toronto, recently; and those who had an opportunity to see it are unanimous in declaring, that it is one of Norma's best, and contains all those elements which make a picture successful from a box-office analysis, and by way of intrinsic merit.

We are waiting for its regular showing to fully review it, in order that exhibitors may get, not only our Trade reaction to it, but the reaction of the public, which is as we well know, the "acid test."

* * * *

HOWEVER, Norma Shearer has the enviable reputation of having never let her following down on a picture. During the variety of roles which she has played in her Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer productions, she has always proved herself an artist; and the delightful charm of her personality has added to the entertainment quality which a Norma Shearer feature delivers.

"Talking Pictures" gave Norma more opportunity to enlarge her audiences; and add to her appeal, for Norma Shearer has a "Screen Talking Voice," which is unusual in its reproduction qualities; and one which every woman screen star must long to possess! Norma's voice is Norma, in other words, her voice reflects her personality.

* * * *

THE NEWSPAPERS in Toronto had a most interesting headline, "Fox Acquires Three Hundred English Theatres." Considering that such acquisition, as it were, is nearly a year old, we wondered why there was an occasion for the headline, unless someone was using the information by way of propaganda. The story has to do with the Gaumont-British deal, which appears to have precipitated much controversy, as to who has actual control.

* * * *

THE GAUMONT-BRITISH officials deny that the Fox Interests has control; and "Variety" recently reported that in an interview with one of the Ostrer Bros., who purchased for Fox Interests, Ostrer when asked if the latter company had control, shouted, "Do you think I'm crazy," or words to that effect.

It looks as if the same Interests, who are spreading the story that Famous Players Canadian was always under American control, is responsible for all this talk of Fox control of Gaumont-British.

* * * *

IT CERTAINLY was the directors of Famous Players, who announced to the public in Canada that Fox controlled Gaumont-British and that is the reason they turned down the offer of \$75.00 a share from Gaumont-British for Famous Players Canadian control.

* * * *

THERE has been so much agitation here about Paramount-Publix absorbing Canada's dominant theatre chain, and so much public sentiment directed against Paramount-Publix as a result, that it looks as if these interests were endeavoring to "tie something" on to the Fox Interests, by way of easing up their own situation.

THE HEADLINES have dwindled down to a statement which does not confirm control of Gaumont-British by Fox Interests, although it does give the latter Interests a substantial holding in the British company, and because of this British alliance, it is likely that the Fox Interests will carry out their theatre plans for Canada, expanding the Gaumont-British affiliation in England to Canada; and thus inaugurating the Empire-Wide theatre plan, which N. L. Nathanson had in his mind for Famous Players Canadian Corporation, when he endeavored to arrange the Gaumont-British deal!

* * * *

MEANWHILE, there has been a special meeting of Minority Shareholders of Famous Players and arrangements completed in reference to the litigation as suggested at the general meeting of the Protective Association of Minority Shareholders where 800 of these, holding approximately 100,000 shares, voted against acceptance of the Paramount-Publix offer; and the government in discussing the matter from a National aspect, on the floor of the House, during three different sessions of Parliament, advised that there would be an investigation under the Combines and Criminal Act.

* * * *

FOLLOWING the arrival of Messrs. Katz and Fitzgibbons in Toronto, the B. & F. Circuit commenced an aggressive campaign to "gather in" the Independent Theatres. The terms were as fair as the exchange of shares, which "the street" in Montreal, called "a raw deal."

* * * *

EXHIBITORS are holding meetings on street corners and in vestibules of office buildings, recalling to your editor's mind what happened in London, England, in 1920, when Paramount tried "to take" the British Film Market through a combination of theatre-building, producing and distributing.

The agitation at that time was sufficient to force Paramount to relinquish its theatre-financing and producing plans, since its distributing revenue was threatened!

* * * *

IF EXHIBITORS will only remember that a monopoly of the Film Industry is not a new idea, it was tried when our Industry was indeed an "Infant" and that Universal and Fox, the big Independents of those days managed to break the Combine.

* * * *

IF THEY will retain their balance of good judgment; and not become "panicky," they will find that the other producer-distributors, who also have theatre affiliations, are watching the Paramount-Publix move; and that they are not likely to submit to becoming servants of Paramount-Publix in any country in which they have an opportunity to maintain their independence; and to compete for a market. The Digest will have some very useful information for exhibitors very soon, so hold on to your theatres.

(Continued on Page 7)

Important News From Northern Electric

His Majesty's Theatre, Montreal's oldest legitimate theatre, known wherever Canadians are, and the scene of some of the great modern actors' new world triumphs, is being equipped with a specially arranged Northern Electric Sound System for the showing of really first rate Sound and Talking pictures.

Acoustic engineers and a large staff of installers are busily engaged in making the necessary alterations and expect to have the installation completed in a few days. "All Quiet" is scheduled at His Majesty's for Saturday, June 21st.

We learn with interest from the Northern Electric Company, Limited, that installations of their Sound system apparatus are now available with motor generator sets in the place of the batteries, have hitherto been used to operate the system. We understand also that these motor generator sets can be supplied to replace batteries on installations already made.

Many of the larger theatres are availing themselves of this further advance of the science of Sound picture reproduction.

The Northern Electric recently issued as an insert in their house organ, "Northern News," a complete list of Canadian theatres, in which they have installed their Sound System, the total was 239, and we learn that today the figure stands at 270, with 40 replacements of their equipments. This is a most encouraging report when viewed as indicating the growth of a truly Canadian industry and remembering that everything was imported for the first installations at the "Palace" in Montreal in 1928—we understand over 85% of the Northern Equipment is now manufactured in the Montreal plant, whilst the high quality of this Canadian workmanship is testified to by the recent presentation by a "foreign" trade paper of a plaque of merit to a certain theatre in Ontario.

This same insert carries the interesting information that some fifty-five hundred theatres in forty-five foreign countries are using the same equipment as the leading

theatres here in Canada. It would seem that there is not so much a question of monopoly by a manufacturer as a universal appreciation of good workmanship quality, and perhaps most of all, service to the exhibitors. The Digest shows no partiality when it says to such a progressive and successful Canadian enterprise, "well done, Northern."

Observations

(Continued from Page 6)

"ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT," adapted from that most remarkable book by Remarque, had a preview showing in Toronto, last week, and those who witnessed it acclaimed it as a great picture.

It is War without any "trimmings"; and perhaps may be termed the grimmest of all the War-Screen presentations!

Some have compared "Journey's End" with "All Quiet on the Western Front," but these pictures are, from your editor's viewpoint, entirely different.

* * * *

THE FORMER is War from a "dugout," the latter is War outside of the "dugout," in the trenches, on battlefields!

* * * *

WE CANNOT see how any producer can produce a War picture after Universal's "All Quiet on the Western Front," and even "Journey's End" should precede it in bookings and not follow it, for no War picture can follow, "All Quiet on the Western Front," it is so realistic and so terrific in its message, that other War pictures can but imitate its realism, never achieve it, while audiences must tremble before its lesson!

THEATRE FOR SALE

Seating capacity, 200. In town of 1,600 population.

BOX 8—CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

SUPER-SPECIALTIES--

MOTIOGRAPH MODEL H MECHANISMS—

The ideal mechanism for your Sound Equipment. Large sturdy gears, ball bearing movement, long, smooth bronze bearings, silent, simple, efficient — and with the patented cylindrical ball bearing shutter that cuts 66% of the heat from the film and gives 20% more light!

MOTIOGRAPH LOW INTENSITY REFLECTOR ARCS—

The lamp built like a lathe with heavy bed and covered feed screw. Motor drive outside the housing. Full 16" carbon trim. In either ellipsoidal type or spherical with condenser type. Sturdy, fool proof, efficient and acknowledged as the finest lamp on the market.

VOCALITE SOUND SCREEN—

The one and only Glass Bead screen that reflects maximum light to the audience, that only holds back 1% of the sound from the speakers behind it — and the only screen in existence that gives perfect rendition of true colors on colored films.

WRITE FOR LITERATURE AND PRICES.

"Courtesy With Service"

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.



Show Business



United States' exhibitors might have had the benefit of holiday business on Decoration Day but the theatres of Ottawa, Ontario, have had three holidays in a row—Victoria Day, May 24; Ascension Day, May 29; and the King's Birthday, June 3, all of which were generally observed in the Canadian Capital.

The Canadian Chemical Society, in convention at Ottawa, heard an interesting address by Dr. C. E. K. Mees, Director of Research, Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N.Y., on "The Production of a Photographic Image." Dr. Mees brought out the point that a film projected on the screen appeared smooth to the naked eye but, under a microscope, the surface of the projected picture contained billions of microscopic crystals. More of these crystals were to be found in a square inch than there were human beings on this earth, he said.

Dr. Mees declared that an important discovery had just been made in that it had been found that an accidental impurity was largely responsible for the sensitiveness of films. This impurity was found in the gelatin from the skin of animals and had been traced to the consumption of plant life. The impurity was a compound containing sulphur.

Former officers of the Province of Quebec Theatre Managers Association are making an attempt to revive the organization which fell by the wayside when the Quebec Provincial Government announced its determination to enforce the law prohibiting the admission of all children under 16 years from theatres where pictures are shown. The revivalists are George Rotsky, manager of the Palace, and B. M. Garfield, manager of the Rialto, Montreal.

The decision has been reached by the civic administration of Montreal to have a local theatre censor in addition to the Provincial Board of Moving Picture Censors and the Quebec Poster Censor and the city executive has appointed J. P. Filion, well known locally as an actor and writer, to the office. In this connection, it is pointed out that the visits of Montreal police officials to the theatres will be discontinued and Filion will now exercise supervision over performances of all kinds at both the English and French theatres.

Two representatives of Famous Players Canadian Corp. at Winnipeg, Manitoba, are now in Los Angeles, Calif., where they attended the annual convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Operators and are inspecting various theatres and studios. They are Norman Code, building superintendent for Western Canada, and Vincent Armand, supervisor of projection for Famous Players.

The pipe organ at the Regent Theatre, Ottawa, Ont., is once more being heard but it is played twice daily for radio concerts over Station CNRO, Ottawa, outside of theatre hours so that insofar as patrons are concerned it is still a closed box. Concerts are given in the

morning and also from 11 to 11.30 P.M. References are made to current and coming attractions at the Regent between selections. The advertising stunt was arranged by Manager T. R. Tubman.

A historic suit of ancient armor, formerly the property of Sir John A. MacDonald, famous Canadian statesman, now graces the foyer of the picturesque Avalon Theatre, Ottawa, having been purchased by P. J. Nolan, proprietor of the theatre, when the furnishings of Earncliffe, the palatial MacDonald residence in Ottawa, were sold recently.

Loew's London Theatre, Limited, had an increase of 19 per cent. in gross revenue during the past year, according to the financial statement just issued, the total gross being \$278,794. Operating costs were higher, due to the adoption of talking pictures, but the net profit was also higher, the comparative figures being \$86,257 and \$80,962. Common stock earned 46 cents per share after dividends of \$23,619 were paid on preferred stock. After writing off \$3,621 on the talking equipment, the installation added \$20,518 to physical assets.

Changes that are being made in Canadian theatres in conjunction with the wiring of the houses are indicated in the transformation of the old Grand Opera House, Pembroke, which has been re-opened as the O'Brien Theatre. The house originally specialized with road shows but the stage has been considerably reduced and the boxes have been removed entirely. A new balcony and projection room have been built, the ceiling has been rounded and all new projection equipment and upholstered seats have been installed. Exits have been added and there are new rest rooms. The interior is now atmospheric in effect.

Mr. Leon Rudd, representing the Tone-O-Graph Corporation of New York City, makers of Sound and Talking Picture Equipment, is at present making his temporary headquarters at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Tone-O-Graph intend opening Canadian offices, throughout the Dominion, and Mr. Rudd has already, during his brief stay in Toronto, made several installations.

During the closing hours of the 16th Canadian Parliament at Ottawa late Friday evening, May 30, further reference was made to the Famous Players-Paramount sale in the House of Commons when Rt. Hon. W. L. M. King, Prime Minister, confirmed the report that "investigations are being made to determine whether a combine exists or not and if a combine is found proceedings will be taken." The machinery of the Department of Labor was being employed by Hon. Peter Heenan, minister of that department, for the securing of information. Hon. R. B. Bennett, Leader of the Opposition, also spoke briefly on the subject.

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Show Business

(Continued from Page 8)

An early move by Paramount Publix in connection with the affairs of Famous Players Canadian Corp., recently acquired through a stock transaction, will be to transfer the head office of the Canadian corporation from Toronto to Montreal, according to reports in local financial circles. This is given as the reason for the listing of Paramount Publix common on the Montreal Stock Exchange and not on the Toronto board. Paramount has listed 3,256,749 common shares on the Montreal Exchange all told.

Canadian shareholders who exchanged five shares of the Canadian common for four of Publix are receiving the current \$1 dividend while those who have retained their shares in the Canadian company will receive the regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents on June 9, this having been declared by Famous Players Canadian Corp. In this respect, the situation is rather interesting for the two groups of shareholders in the Dominion.

With the transfer to Paramount Publix control effected, attention is being paid to the plans for the annual conventions of theatre managers of Famous Players Canadian Corp. Intimation has been given that the convention of managers for Eastern Canada will be held this summer in Montreal. Last year it was staged at Niagara Falls.

An alliance between Famous Players Canadian Corp. and Fox Film Corp. in Canada insofar as film bookings are concerned is being discussed, it is understood. Reference has been made to an agreement with Fox for a definite number of features for the year 1930-31 for the 200 F-P houses in the Dominion, the point being made that there are not sufficient Paramount features. Such an agreement might avert a theatre building war in Canadian key centres, it is said. (No confirmation of such a proposed arrangement could be obtained and the story may be in the nature of "just propaganda."—Editor.)

Sam Katz, president of the Publix Theatres Corp., paid a visit to Montreal May 30, accompanied by Arthur Cohen of Toronto, managing director of Famous Players Canadian Corp., for the purpose of checking up details arising out of the transfer of control of Canada's big theatre chain to Paramount-Publix.

Mr. Katz declined to be interviewed but, speaking for him, Arthur Cohen declared that "the newspapers have carried everything there is to say." There was a touch of humor in this remark, whether intentional or not, because Canadian newspapers have carried columns of matter with reference to the Paramount-Publix deal. Mr. Katz made a formal inspection of several of the leading local Famous Players houses and investigated the situation generally, his visit coming just a few days after the consummation of the transaction whereby many Canadian shareholders will receive Paramount-Publix stock.

The Royal Alexandre Theatre, Toronto, large legitimate house, is being wired for "Sound."

POSITION WANTED

Projectionist—Thoroughly experienced, all types equipment, RCA and Western Electric Sound. Guarantee Results. Married. Available at once.

BOX 7—CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Paramount-Publix Executives Meet In Winnipeg

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

A number of executives in the theatrical world of United States, who are from now on to take a deeper and wider interest in Canadian theatres, met with their general manager for Canada, Mr. Fitzgibbons, and spent Monday, May 26, in Winnipeg, looking over the Famous Players Canadian Corporation properties and conferring with the managers and the executives of the nine theatres under the control of this organization. Morris Milligan, Toronto, general manager for Canada of Famous-Lasky exchanges, came from Toronto to meet the members of the party, and returned east with them. Mr. H. M. Thomas, western divisional manager of the circuit, was in Vancouver, B.C., but did not meet the party.

\$250,000 To Be Spent On Capitol, Winnipeg

The R.K.O. vaudeville organization, part owners of the Capitol Theatre, Winnipeg, with the Famous Players, has decided to spend \$250,000 on the Portage Avenue front of the property, erecting a modern office and stores block which will also contain their main entrance to the theatre off Portage Avenue. It will have a Tyndall stone front, and be most modern. The halls above the present stores in the building, have never been a paying proposition for such a central location.

Allied Amusements Building New Theatre

The Allied Amusements Limited, Winnipeg, owner of the Roxy, the Palace and a number of other suburban houses in Winnipeg, has started the construction of an \$150,000 theatre on Academy Road, in the fashionable River Heights residence district. It will be of brick and stone and requirements of a modern theatre, fully equipped for the Talkies, and will also have a stage, and an atmospheric ceiling. J. Miles is the general manager. The Roxy, which the company erected in East Kildonan suburb, at a cost of \$125,000, has been very successful since it opened, in the matter of patronage.

Old National Theatre Winnipeg Demolished

The old National Theatre, Fort Street, Winnipeg, which in its day was one of the leading houses of Winnipeg for the showing of the best pictures, is being demolished to make way for a modern business block.

It had served its day and generation, and the owners could get no one to take over the house and run it as a theatre at a figure which would make the proposition a paying one to the owner. C. S. Gunn is the agent for the owners and the new block will cost \$50,000, on a 25 foot frontage, and 120 feet deep.

M. J. Williamson, the lessee for many years, made a fortune out of the house, and invested it in oil. He paid the organist of the theatre, Walter Dolman, for a number of years \$100 a week. Today organists of "Talkie" houses in Winnipeg find it hard to get more than \$30 a week, and they are among the most talented in the city. Where \$75 and \$100 a week was paid, the schedule has dropped to \$29.50 a week, and little playing to do for the money.

Round About the Studios



Leila Hyams, appearing in M-G-M productions.

Tod Browning has found it advisable to make a number of changes in transforming "Outside the Law" to a talking script. One of them involves the change of names of the principal characters. Mary Nolan will play the role of Connie; Edward G. Robinson that of Cobra; the juvenile lead, "Fingers" O'Dell has not as yet been selected. Edward Sturgis and John George play Jake and Humpy.

"Holiday" will offer Ann Harding, Mary Astor, Edward Everett Horton, Robert Ames and Hedda Hopper in one of last season's outstanding stage successes produced by Arthur Hopkins from Philip Barry's sparkling pen. In the large supporting cast are Monroe Owsley, Audrey Forrester, Mabel Forrest, Creighton Hale, Hallam Cooley. Horace Jackson did the adaptation and E. H. Griffith will direct. A Pathe production.

Designated by William LeBaron as the most promising juvenile leading man in motion pictures, Joel McCrae, Radio Pictures player, has been assigned the leading role in "The Silver Horde," a Rex Beach story to be filmed in Alaska. William Siström will supervise this production.

Arthur Freed, long the lyric writer of the team of Nacio Herb Brown and Freed, responsible for "Singin' in the Rain," "Broadway Melody," "Wedding of the Painted Doll," "Should I," and other hits, now has a new partner. Harry Woods, composer of such hits as "Side by Side," "Little Kiss Each Morning," "Little Kiss Each Night." Woods and Freed have just completed "Here Comes the Sun," which will be one of the "spotted" numbers in "The March of Time," M-G-M's forthcoming 1930 counterpart of "The Hollywood Revue of 1929."

Richard Thorpe, director of Tiffany's "Border Romance," "Under Montana Skies" and "So This is Mexico," is busy casting for "His Last Race." He was assigned by Phil Goldstone, chief studio executive.

Glenn Hunter, famous as "Merton of the Movies" both on the screen and the New York stage, has returned to the motion picture field and will make his first talking picture at the Tiffany Studios. Phil Goldstone, chief studio executive, has signed Hunter for the leading masculine role in "Why Marry," a farce melodrama. Frank Strayer will direct. Vera Reynolds, one of the screen's most popular stars, has been signed to play the leading feminine role. Others in the cast include Nita Martan and Paul Hurst.

Otto Lang and Carl Stockdale are the most recent members to be added to the cast of Columbia's fourth roadshow production of the "Prosperity Group" entitled "Hell's Island." The drama brings together again the pals of "Submarine" and "Flight," Jack Holt and Ralph Graves, in a tense narrative of life in the French Foreign Legion at Algiers and on the Island penal colony in Guiana. Dorothy Sebastian has the leading feminine role with Harry Allen and Lionel Belmore prominent in the support. Edward Slloman is responsible for the direction.



Montague Love, a Tiffany feature player.

Universal has purchased the popular "Strange As It Seems" cartoons and drawings from John Hix, author and originator. They will be made into a series of single reel color comedies for first-run distribution.

Daphne Pollard returns to the talking screen again in a forthcoming Educational-Mack Sennett Talking Comedy, which has been titled, "Goodbye Legs." She is featured together with Nick Stuart, Andy Clyde and Ann Christy. Miss Pollard plays a typical light comedienne role in this new Sennett which also is graced by a group of unusually pretty Sennett girls.

Billy Kent, Ernest Wood and Alice Lake are the featured players in a Vitaphone Varieties one reel slapstick situation comedy entitled "Dining Out" directed by Del Lord from a story by Clarence Hennecke.

Because Kenneth MacKenna will not finish the featured role he plays opposite Mary Pickford in "Secrets" in time to begin work with Milton Sills in "The Sea Wolf," Fox Film Corporation picture, Raymond Hackett has been signed to replace him.

Mr. Hackett recently finished a prominent part in the Fox picture, "On Your Back," featuring Irene Rich.

Dorothy Matthews, an unknown bit player, has just been signed by J. L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production for Warner Bros., to play the lead in the same production in which she was formerly an extra. She was chosen right on the lot when it was learned that the actress assigned to the leading role would be unable to complete the picture. The production is still untitled.

Barbara Stanwyck will be starred in the title role of "The Miracle Woman," one of the Columbia "Superior Twenty," for next season. It will represent her first work under the new four year contract she won for the excellent performance given in "Ladies of Leisure." "The Miracle Woman" is a screen adaptation of the famous stage play, "Bless You Sister," in which Alice Brady scored a tremendous success on Broadway.

Lloyd Hamilton's new talking comedy for Educational release, "Honk Your Horn," has Lige Conley in one of the principal supporting roles. Conley for years was a featured comedian in Educational's silent laugh-makers and of late has been staging a come-back in talking comedies starring Hamilton. He had a minor role in "Good Morning Sheriff," Hamilton's production for May, and in "Honk Your Horn," he plays opposite the popular star.

Fifteen hundred Annapolis midshipmen will be heard in mass singing of "Anchors Aweigh," in a new Pathe Audio Review.



"Caught Short," featuring Polly Moran and Marie Dressler, is breaking records wherever shown.

Regal Films Limited is Proud to
Announce that During Season 1930-31
It Will Continue as Canadian Distri-
butors for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer,
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These Will Represent the Best Fea-
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Be Produced.

Don't Sign Up for a Single Picture
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ment Next Week.

Pathe Pictures for Season 1930-31

FOR TWENTY-SIX YEARS Pathe has annually come before the public and the amusement world with a significant array of screen productions. In this most important year of this great industry Pathe offers for exhibitors' consideration the most comprehensive and outstanding list of Features and Short Subjects in the company's history.

Pathe's product for 1930-31 is a new concept and new ideals for the talking picture screen.

There will be twenty Feature Pictures, each being "specials" in the full meaning of the term. Program pictures are entirely discarded.

There will be over 300 Short Subjects, including two-reel Comedies, Sports, Novelty, Travel and News subjects.

In next week's issue of this magazine there will appear the complete line-up for season 1930-31. Exhibitors will be well advised not to sign for a single picture for the new season until they have read this announcement.

A New Concept and New Ideals